

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Office Action of December 4, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and this response addresses the Examiner's concerns stated in the office action.

Claims 1-15 are now pending. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 1-7 are allowable. Claim 8 has been amended. Claims 9-15 have been added to better invention the invention.

The Office Action objects to Figures 7(a) and 9 because the exploded views should be shown embraced by a bracket, respectively, to show the relationship or order of assembly of various parts, since the figures are shown on the same sheet as another figure. Applicants have modified Figures 7(a) and 9 with brackets. All changes have been made without the addition of new matter. (See Replacement Sheets 7 and 8, respectively)

The Office Action objects to Figures 11(a) and 11(b) because the figures should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is illustrated is old. Applicants have modified Figures 11(a) and 11(b) adding the phrase --Prior Art--. All changes have been made without the addition of new matter. (See Replacement Sheet 9)

The Office Action objects to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because drawing figures do not show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Applicants have submitted new drawings, Figs. 12-16, that show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. The new figures are submitted without the addition of new matter. (See New Sheets 10-12).

Applicants have correspondingly amended the specification to incorporate new Figs. 12-16. Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to the "Amendments to the Specification" section contained herein for the details of such amendments.

Appl. No. 10/090,494  
Amdt. Dated March 1, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 4, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 10972 P07

The Office Action objects to claim 8 under 37 CFR 1.1785(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. Accordingly, the Examiner has not examined claim 8 on the merits.

Claims 1-15 are now pending. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 1-7 are allowable. Claim 8 has been amended to overcome the claim objection under 37 CFR 1.75(c). Claims 9-15 have been added to better define the invention. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

With regards to claim 8, Applicants have amended claim 8 to overcome the claim objection under 37 CFR 1.17(c). Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter amended claim 8 and examine such claim on the merits, and further find such claim in condition for allowance.

With regards to claims 9-14, Applicants have added new claims 9-14, which are based on original claim 8, to better define the invention. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter new claims 9-14 and examine such claims on the merits, and further find such claims in condition for allowance.

In conclusion, in view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner remove the objections of claims 8-14 and find claims 8-14 allowable. Applicants further respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Since no additional claims have been added beyond the claims originally paid for, no fees are required. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2410, order 10972 P07, if necessary.

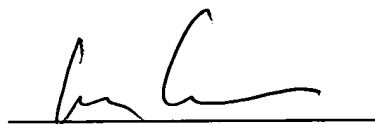
Appl. No. 10/090,494  
Amdt. Dated March 1, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of December 4, 2003  
Attorney Docket No. 10972 P07

In accordance with Section 714.01 of the M.P.E.P., the following information is presented in the event that a call may be deemed desirable by the Examiner: JERRY COHEN (617) 854-4000

Dated: March 1, 2004

Respectfully submitted,  
Shizuo Kume et al., Applicants

By:



JERRY COHEN  
Reg. No. 20,522  
Attorney for Applicants

Attachments

10972-1-OARespa-020404.doc